Docket No.: 27793-00099USPX

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- (Currently Amended) An anti-buckling device for insertion into a thin-walled fluid duct, comprising ducts, wherein:

 in its longitudinal direction it has several a plurality of ribs in a longitudinal direction of the anti-buckling device, wherein a whereby the space between two adjacent ribs forms a groove grooves;
 the wherein a cross-section of the anti-buckling device fills a the cross-section of the a duct in such a way that the duct walls lie on the plurality of ribs at a buckling point but cannot penetrate into the grooves causing;
 the grooves to remain open and permeable for fluids when the anti-buckling device is bent;
 wherein the fluids ean circulate through the grooves of the anti-buckling device and, if necessary, transmit pressure forces; and
 wherein an envelope of the anti-buckling device in at least a portion of a length of the anti-buckling device corresponds essentially to the cross-section of the duct at
- 2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid duets according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of ribs in the their longitudinal direction the ribs are interrupted, and wherein thereby the grooves are connected to each other by way of transverse connections.

the buckling point.

- 3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid duets according to claim 2, wherein the <u>plurality of</u> interrupted ribs are formed as knobs, and <u>wherein</u> the grooves with the transverse connections form an intermediate space.
- 4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts according to claim 1, wherein the anti-buckling device it is formed in such a way that at least one plastic pipe can be inserted in the anti-buckling device it.
- 5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid duets according to claim 4, wherein the at least one plastic pipe is reinforced.

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6. (CANCELED)

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts

according to claim 1 6, wherein the envelope is essentially lenticular.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts

according to claim 1, wherein the envelope essentially corresponds to the cross-section of the

duct along an the entire length of the anti-buckling device.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts

according to claim 8, wherein the envelope is essentially lenticular in the middle of the anti-

buckling device and becomes continuously more circular in both directions.

10. (CANCELED)

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts

according to claim 1, wherein the thin-walled <u>fluid</u> duct is a hose and the anti-buckling device is

deformable and is adapted to ean adjust itself to deformations in a the cross-section of the hose.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts

according to claim 1, wherein the thin-walled fluid duct is a core worked into a woven material

and the anti-buckling device is deformable and is adapted to ean adjust itself to changes in a the

cross-section of the core induced by a pressure ρ .

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts

according to claim 1, wherein the anti-buckling device it consists of an elastic material.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts

according to claim 1, wherein the anti-buckling device it consists of an elastomer.

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15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts according to claim 13, wherein the elastic material has a hardness of between 30 20 and 80 Shore.

- 16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin walled fluid duets according to claim 15, wherein the elastic material has a hardness of between 30 20 and 60 Shore.
- 17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of ribs are applied to an the inside of a duct wall 9.
- 18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The anti-buckling device for thin-walled fluid ducts according to claim 3, wherein the knobs are applied to an the inside of the a duct wall 9.
- 19. (New) The anti-buckling device according to claim 1, wherein a width of the anti-buckling device is smaller than a corresponding part of the cross-section of the duct at the buckling point and corresponds approximately to a width of the duct remote from the buckling point.